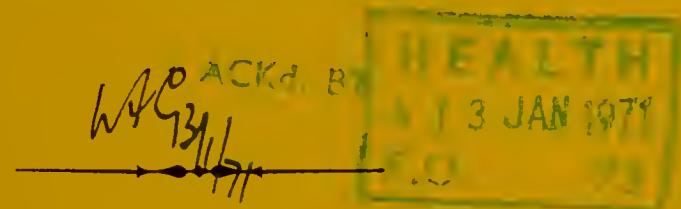


The Urban District Council of  
**ABERDARE**



**ANNUAL  
REPORT**

of the  
**Medical Officer of Health**

for the year

**1969**

**J. LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS**  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D.P.H. (Lond.)



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## HEALTH COMMITTEE

Date of Meetings: Third Tuesday in each Month at 6.30 p.m.

### **Chairman**

Councillor: Mrs. L. G. LYNCH

Councillor D. W. GRIFFITHS	Councillor W. H. LEWIS
W. S. JONES	T. E. McCUE
T. WILLIAMS	E. D. JENKINS
Mrs. E. E. BESELL	Mrs. S. MORGAN
J. M. POWELL	T. JONES
T. C. PHILLIPS	D. D. MORGAN
Mrs. P. M. JONES	J. O'CONNELL

### **Ex-Officio Members**

Councillor: Mrs. L. G. LYNCH

Councillor: I. W. EVANS

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS 1969

*Medical Officer of Health* . . . J. LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., (LOND)

*Chief Public Health*

*Inspector* . . . . . JOHN F. JONES, C.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

*Public Health Inspectors* . . . . . EVAN P. EVANS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
MICHAEL J. KEDWARD, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
ALAN J. PIKE, M.A.P.H.I.

*Pupil Public Health*

*Inspectors* . . . . . GARETH T. EVANS  
B. KEMBER

*Housing Assistant* . . . . . D. NORMAN REYNOLDS, D.M.A.

*Welfare Assistant* . . . . . JAMES CONNELLY

### **Clerical Staff**

*Chief Clerk* . . . . . Mrs. BERYL HARDWICKE

*Second Clerk* . . . . . Mrs. MYRA CORNELIUS

*Shorthand Typists* . . . . . Miss BERYL EVANS  
Mrs. J. RIST

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
ROCK GROUNDS,  
ABERDARE

5th September, 1970

Tel. No.: Aberdare 2441

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Urban District Council of Aberdare

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the privilege to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions of the district, and of the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1969. This Report has been prepared on the lines laid down in Circular 1/69 (Wales) of the Welsh Board of Health.

I would like to express to the Council my appreciation of the interest shown by the Members in matters affecting Public Health. I wish, also, to express my sincere thanks for the help I have received from Mr. D. G. James, the Clerk of the Council and the Council's Chief Officers, the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. J. F. Jones, the Public Health Inspectors, to Mr. D. N. Reynolds, Housing Assistant and Mrs. Beryl Hardwick, Chief Clerk and the Clerical Staff for their loyal support and assistance to me during the year under review.

Yours Sincerely,

J. LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS,

*Medical Officer of Health*

M.O.H. Private Address Tel. No.: Aberdare 2980

### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District (in acres)	..	..	..	..	..	..	15,183
Census Population (1961)	..	..	..	..	..	..	39,155
Registrar's Estimated Population	..	..	..	..	..	..	38,210
Number of inhabited houses (31st December, 1969)	..	..	..	..	..	..	14,056
Rateable Value (New Valuation List at 1st April, 1969)	..	..	..	..	..	..	£851,231
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	£3,350

### VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	..	..	..	..	..	..	650
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	..	..	..	..	..	crude adjusted	17.0 18.5
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	7.0
Stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.0
Total live and still births	..	..	..	..	..	..	661
Infant deaths (Deaths under 1 year)	..	..	..	..	..	..	13
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births—Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	20.0
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births—legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	17.0
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 live births—illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	65.0
Neo Natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.0
Early neo natal mortality rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.0
Perinatal mortality rate	..	..	..	..	..	..	32.0
Maternal mortality (Including abortion)	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	..	..	..	..	..	..	—

### DEATHS

Deaths that actually occurred in this district	..	..	..	..	..	..	458
Local residents who died outside the area	..	..	..	..	..	..	218
							676
Residents of other districts who died in the Aberdare Area	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Corrected number of deaths	..	..	..	..	..	..	661
661 deaths occurred among local residents giving a death rate of	15.2	per 1,000					
	crude						17.3
	adjusted						17.5
Death rate for 1968	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.9
Death rate for England and Wales for 1969 per 1,000 (crude)	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.9
For Glamorgan (Administrative County)	..	..	..	..	..	crude adjusted	13.3 15.2
For Urban Districts	..	..	..	..	..	crude adjusted	13.7 15.5
For Rural Districts	..	..	..	..	..	crude adjusted	12.3 14.1

## INFANT MORTALITY AND PERI-NATAL MORTALITY 1969

Source	Infant Mortality		Peri Natal Mortality
	Rate per 1,000 live births	Stillbirths Deaths under one week	
England and Wales ..	18.0	18,894	23.0
Glamorgan County ..	20.0	366	30.0
Urban Districts ..	22.0	257	31.0
Rural Districts ..	17.0	109	27.0
ABERDARE ..	20.0	21	32.0
<b>Some Larger Glamorgan Districts</b>			
Barry ..	15.0	13	20.0
Bridgend ..	16.0	1	5.0
Caerphilly ..	25.0	29	36.0
Maesteg ..	20.0	12	33.0
Mountain Ash ..	24.0	16	35.0
Neath Borough ..	24.0	9	23.0
Neath Rural ..	20.0	17	26.0
Pontypridd ..	22.0	21	38.0
Port Talbot ..	18.0	23	32.0
Rhondda Borough ..	24.0	40	29.0

## STILL BIRTHS

The number of still births registered was 11—four males, seven females. The still birth rate per 1,000 registered live and still births being 17.0.

**INFANT MORTALITY RATE SINCE 1916**  
 (Number of Deaths under 1 year) per 1,000 total live births

Year	England and Wales	Aberdare	Year	England and Wales	Aberdare
1916	91	102	1943	49	66
1917	96	91	1944	46	36
1918	97	123	1945	46	46
1919	89	89	1946	43	46
1920	80	98	1947	41	62
1921	83	104	1948	34	41
1922	77	110	1949	32	51
1923	69	77	1950	29.8	33.85
1924	75	84	1951	29.6	54.28
1925	75	95	1952	27.6	36.78
1926	70	88	1953	26.8	30.80
1927	69	71	1954	25.5	26.79
1928	65	91	1955	24.9	32.67
1929	74	98	1956	23.8	28.42
1930	60	68	1957	23.0	37.64
1931	66	86	1958	22.5	28.30
1932	65	57	1959	22.0	27.08
1933	64	78	1960	21.7	40.40
1934	59	79	1961	21.4	20.10
1935	57	67	1962	21.4	36.36
1936	59	68	1963	20.9	31.40
1937	58	73	1964	20.0	27.64
1938	53	51	1965	19.0	28.65
1939	50	50	1966	19.0	24.75
1940	55	80	1967	18.3	26.31
1941	59	61	1968	18.0	27.9
1942	49	66	1969	18.0	20.0

**Neo Natal Mortality rate since 1950**  
 (Number of Deaths under 4 weeks)  
 per 1,000 live births

**Peri-natal Mortality rate since 1960**  
 (Still births and deaths under 1 week)  
 per 1,000 combined total  
 live and still births

Year	England and Wales	Aberdare	Year	England and Wales	Aberdare
1950		20.07	1960	32.90	44.41
1951	18.8	17.83	1961	32.00	34.48
1952	18.9	22.77	1962	30.80	38.77
1953	17.7	25.36	1963	29.30	29.46
1954	17.7	21.43	1964	28.20	30.45
1955	17.3	25.41	1965	26.90	31.25
1956		23.09	1966	26.30	41.87
1957	16.5	29.46	1967	25.40	28.00
1958		23.05	1968	25.00	28.00
1959		19.86	1969	23.00	32.00
1960	15.6	30.30			
1961		15.08			
1962		23.14			
1963		21.49			
1964		16.26			
1965		19.61			
1966		18.15			
1967	12.5	19.73			
1968		22.1			
1969	12.0	15.0			

**TABLE OF INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1969**

## CAUSES OF DEATH

			Male	Female	Total
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	..	..	346	315	661
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	..	..	3	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal cavity, etc.	..	..	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	..	..	1	—	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	..	..	8	6	14
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	..	..	7	12	19
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	..	..	20	3	23
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	..	..	—	10	10
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	..	..	—	8	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	..	..	2	—	2
Leukaemia	..	..	—	3	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms	..	..	11	10	21
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms	..	..	2	1	3
Diabetes Mellitus	..	..	4	5	9
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	..	..	—	4	4
Anaemias	..	..	3	1	4
Meningitis	..	..	—	2	2
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	..	..	3	—	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart disease	..	..	9	4	13
Hypertensive Disease	..	..	16	10	26
Ischaemic Heart disease	..	..	85	71	156
Other forms of heart disease	..	..	29	42	71
Cerebrovascular Disease	..	..	33	67	100
Other diseases of circulatory system	..	..	9	11	20
Influenza	..	..	1	2	3
Pneumonia	..	..	6	9	15
Bronchitis and Emphysema	..	..	40	6	46
Asthma	..	..	2	1	3
Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	23	1	24
Peptic Ulcer	..	..	2	1	3
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	..	..	—	2	2
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	2	—	2
Other diseases of digestive system	..	..	—	5	5
Nephritis and Nephrosis	..	..	3	—	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	5	—	5
Other diseases, Genito-Urinary system	..	..	—	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal system	..	..	—	2	2
Congenital anomalies	..	..	1	1	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	..	..	2	3	5
Other causes of perinatal mortality	..	..	—	1	1
Symptoms and ill defined conditions	..	..	3	3	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	2	—	2
All other Accidents	..	..	8	5	13
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	..	..	—	1	1

The following table shows the number of deaths from cancer in the area during the past five years.

	1965			1966			1967			1968			1969		
	M.	F.	Total												
Stomach ..	10	8	18	11	8	19	5	8	13	12	13	25	8	6	14
Lung Bronchus ..	18	1	19	13	2	15	19	1	20	11	2	13	20	3	23
Breast ..	—	9	9	—	8	8	—	9	9	—	8	8	—	10	10
Uterus ..	—	4	4	—	4	4	—	5	5	—	4	4	—	8	8
Other ..	18	26	44	16	17	33	25	16	41	24	10	34	11	13	24
Totals ..	46	48	94	40	39	79	49	39	88	47	37	84	39	40	79

### LIVE BIRTHS

		Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ..	..	306	298	604
Illegitimate ..	..	22	24	46
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		328	322	650

Birth rate per 1,000 population being (crude)	..	..	..	..	17.0
Birth rate per 1,000 population being (adjusted)	..	..	..	..	18.5
1968 birth rate per 1,000 population was (adjusted)	..	..	..	..	19.2
The birth rate for England and Wales being (crude)	..	..	..	..	16.3
The birth rate for Glamorgan (administrative County) (crude)	..	..	..	..	16.3
The birth rate for Glamorgan (administrative County) (adjusted)	..	..	..	..	16.8
The birth rate for Urban Districts being (crude)	..	..	..	..	15.5
The birth rate for Urban Districts being (adjusted)	..	..	..	..	16.0
The birth rate for Rural Districts being (crude)	..	..	..	..	18.2
The birth rate for Rural Districts being (adjusted)	..	..	..	..	18.6

### Illegitimate Births

The number of illegitimate births registered was 46, of which 22 were boys and 24 girls. Three deaths occurred amongst these children.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

During the year the following notifications were received:—

DISEASE						MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	12	9	21
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	8	5	13
Infective Jaundice	..	..	..	..	..	54	48	102
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	8	1	9
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	19	29	48
Paratyphoid	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2

The following table shows the incidence of notification of confirmed infectious diseases during the past seven years:—

DISEASE		1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Scarlet Fever	..	11	10	14	2	6	22	21
Whooping Cough	..	1	4	—	1	2	1	—
Measles	..	112	167	39	188	83	173	13
Paratyphoid	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Dysentery (Sonne)	..	3	6	8	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	..	—	—	2	4	—	5	48
Meningococcal Infection	..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Erysipelas	..	1	1	1	—	1	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	7	6	2	2	2	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	..	18	20	9	11	7	10	—
Poliomyelitis-Paralytic	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Jaundice	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	102
Acute Encephalitis	..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—

## FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning incidents are divided into three categories:

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| 1. General Outbreak | two or more cases in different families due to a common cause. |
| 2. Family Outbreaks | two or more related cases in the same household.               |
| 3. Sporadic Cases   | single cases which are isolated occurrences.                   |

Incidents are reported to the Health Department of the Welsh Office as they occur, and the Annual Return of Food Poisoning for this district for the year ended 31st December, 1969, contained the following information:

General Outbreaks		Sporadic Cases	Total No. of Cases
No. of Separate Outbreaks	No. of Cases Ascertained	No. of Cases Notified	Notified and Ascertained
1	46	2	48

At the beginning of the Autumn, two separate cases of Food Poisoning were notified—one by a General Practitioner and one from the Isolation Hospital. In the history of both cases, a wedding reception was mentioned. Enquiries then established that the wedding reception was the same in both cases, and further enquiries disclosed that approximately forty of the seventy-five guests present at the wedding reception were suffering from symptoms suggestive of food poisoning.

Faecal swabs were taken from all the guests resident in this area and positive results were obtained in forty-six cases—the organism isolated being *Salmonella-Heidelberg*.

While the majority of guests were resident within this area, a small number lived elsewhere and the respective Medical Officers of Health of those areas were informed of the situation. The caterers for the reception operated from premises situated outside the Aberdare district and the appropriate authority was advised of the occurrence.

Three of the local cases were admitted to hospital and some were quite ill. The remainder were treated at home by their family doctors who were kept fully informed of events and received full reports from the Public Health Laboratory on all their patients. Repeat swabs were taken in all confirmed cases especially where these patients were by occupation, food handlers, and this was followed by appropriate precautions taken to prevent the spread of infection.

Close contact was maintained with all the Medical Officers of Health concerned and especially with the Medical Officer of Health for the district from which the caterers operated, who kept me informed of the progress of investigations in his area. However, the time between the date of the wedding reception and the first notification of suspected Food Poisoning—a period of five days—meant that possible food sources were no longer available for examination.

The Public Health Department in Aberdare, however, is indebted to the local General Practitioners and to the hospital for the telephoned notifications, and, in particular for the information supplied therewith which enabled the Department to deduce that these two separate cases were related, and so instigated the commencement of investigations leading to the discovery and containment of the outbreak in this area.

## PARATYPHOID

Two cases of paratyphoid were discovered in the Aberdare area, both of whom had been on holiday in the same hotel at Benidorm in Spain.

The first case was discovered when a local General Practitioner submitted a faecal swab for bacteriological examination, and the second case, which incidentally was symptomless, was brought to light as a result of following up local contacts.

Investigation of contacts further afield, who had been on the same package holiday, led to the discovery of two more cases of paratyphoid in the Bristol area.

With more and more people going abroad for their holidays, all concerned must be alive to the likelihood of such incidents occurring with increasing frequency.

## TUBERCULOSIS

### Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172

The number of new cases notified in 1969 was:-

Tuberculosis Pulmonary ..	..	..	..	..	9
---------------------------	----	----	----	----	---

Cases of Tuberculosis admitted to Sanatoria in 1969 ..	2
--	---

Cases of Tuberculosis discharged from Sanatoria in 1969 ..	2
--	---

The following tables give the age and sex distribution of persons notified as suffering from Tuberculosis and of those who died from the disease:-

Age Periods	NEW CASES NOTIFIED			DEATHS		
	Respiratory M.. F.	Menin- gitis M. F.	Other forms M. F.	Respira- tory M. F.	Menin- gitis M. F.	Other forms M. F.
0 to 5 ..	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
5 to 14 ..	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
15 to 24 ..	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
25 to 44 ..	2 1	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
45 to 64 ..	3 —	— —	— —	1 —	— —	— —
65 & over ..	— —	— —	— —	2 —	— —	— —
Age unk'n ..	1 —	— —	— —	— —	— —	— —
<b>Totals ..</b>	<b>8 1</b>	<b>— —</b>	<b>— —</b>	<b>3 —</b>	<b>— —</b>	<b>— —</b>

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district for the past 20 years.

Year	CASES NOTIFIED		DEATHS NOTIFIED	
	Respiratory	Other Forms	Respiratory	Other Forms
1950	51	12	22	2
1951	51	17	27	5
1952	44	2	11	1
1953	104	8	13	1
1954	74	10	9	5
1955	49	12	8	1
1956	25	5	6	1
1957	31	4	3	—
1958	28	4	9	—
1959	21	1	5	—
1960	17	7	5	—
1961	28	5	2	1
1962	28	3	6	1
1963	26	1	8	—
1964	18	2	3	1
1965	13	2	2	1
1966	13	—	2	—
1967	11	2	2	—
1968	8	1	1	—
1969	9	—	3	—

### NEW SEWAGE WORKS

During 1969 work commenced on the Cynon Valley Sewage Disposal Works. This is a joint project of the Aberdare and Mountain Ash Councils and will concentrate in one modern works the treatment of sewage from the Cynon and Clydach Valleys. This modern activated sludge method of sewage treatment will completely replace the old works, and the scheme is designed to meet the needs of a future population increase.

It is estimated that the new works at Cwm Farm, Abercynon, will be operational in the autumn of 1972.

## RIVER POLLUTION

The state of the River Cynon within the area has been maintained in a reasonably satisfactory condition throughout 1969.

During the year the River Cynon remained clean but the River Dare was subjected to considerable pollution by oil and slurry from the Bwllfa Tip recovery operations. This diminished as the year progressed and the river became quite clean after the operations ceased in the autumn.

In general, efforts to improve the cleanliness and purity of the waters of the several rivers in the area continue, and these efforts include close co-operation with the River Board; continual consultation with industrialists; prohibition of the discharge of effluents into the rivers; pre-treatment of trade effluents prior to the acceptance of these into the Council sewers. Improvements are also being brought about and maintained by insistence on close observation of the conditions attached to planning consents on coal washing plants connected with tip recovery, and constant surveillance of permanent washeries operated by the National Coal Board.

## WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the water supply of the Urban Area is supplied by the Taf Fechan Water Board and is derived from seven sources, six of which lie within the Urban Area.

RESERVOIR	CAPACITY IN GALLONS	AREA SUPPLIED
NANTHIR ( <i>Situated on the mountainside above Llwydcoed</i> )	40,000,000	Llwydcoed, Ysguborwen, Graig Place, Abernant, Maesyffynon, Godreaman (West of Jubilee Road), Forge View area, North View Terrace, Cwmbach (part).
NANTMOEL. ( <i>Situated on the mountainside above Llwydcoed</i> )	67,000,000	Hoovers, Cables, Trecynon, Trefelin to Park Schools, Roberstown, part of Aberaman to Abercwmboi.
BWLLFA (Graig Storage Ponds) ( <i>Situated in the Bwllfa Cwmwdare Village</i> )	7,000,000	Foundrytown Daviestown Town Centre, Maesydre, Gadlys (to Park Grove), Plasdraw Area, Sunnybank Street.
NANTAMANFACH ( <i>Situated in the hollow of the Hafod Wen mountain Cwmaman</i> )	60,000	Part of Aberanian, part of Godreaman, Incline Row.
PWLLFA ( <i>Situated at Ffyrnant in the hollow of the Ffaldau and Coedcae Mountains, Cwmaman. Catchment area reinforced by pumping from impounded flow from the old Bedwyn Level.</i> )	160,000	Woodland Terrace to Glynhafod Street.
TAF FECHAN WATER BOARD		
Upper Neuadd .. .. ..	340,000,000	Croesbychan, Hirwaun, Penywaun, Hirwaun Road,
Lower Neuadd .. .. ..	74,000,000	Cwmdarc, Trecynon (Cemetery Lodge to Park Lane),
Taf Fechan .. .. ..	3,400,000,000	Llcwellyn Street.

## WATER SUPPLIES

Bacteriological and chemical analyses were made from samples taken from distribution points at weekly intervals.

A table showing the results of bacteriological and chemical tests on the filtered supplies is given below:—  
The Taf Fechan Water Board were supplied with copies of the Analyst's report.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND PADDLING POOL

There are three swimming baths and one paddling pool situated in the district administered by the Engineer and Surveyor's Department of the Council, viz.:—

Swimming Bath and paddling pool at Aberdare Public Park

Swimming Bath at Rock Grounds, Aberdare and

Swimming Bath at Michael's Field, Recreation Ground, Aberaman

Baths	Source of filling	Method of Treatment (at the Baths)			Frequency of Water Turnover in Baths		
		Sulphate of Alumina & Soda	Sodium hypochlorinator	Chlorine Gas	10 hourly changeover	10 hourly changeover	10 hourly changeover
Aberaman	Nantmoel Supply Treated	Sulphate of Alumina & Soda	Sodium hypochlorinator	Chlorine Gas	10 hourly changeover	10 hourly changeover	10 hourly changeover
Rock	Bwlfffa/Graig Supply Treated	Sulphate of Alumina & Soda	Sodium hypochlorinator	Chlorine Gas	10 hourly changeover	10 hourly changeover	10 hourly changeover
Park	Bwlfffa/Graig Supply Treated	Sulphate of Alumina & Soda	Sodium hypochlorinator	Chlorine Gas	10 hourly changeover	10 hourly changeover	10 hourly changeover
RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL TESTS		RESULTS OF CHEMICAL TESTS			RESULTS OF CHEMICAL TESTS		
SOURCE OF SUPPLY		No. of samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	% Satisfactory	No. of samples	Satisfactory
ROCK BATHS							
Shallow End	..	..	..	..	100%	13	8
Deep End	..	..	..	..	84.6%	13	7
PARK BATHS							
Shallow End	..	..	..	..	100%	12	6
Deep End	..	..	..	..	83.3%	12	6
PARK PADDLING POOL							
Cascade	..	..	..	..	100%	13	7
Centre	..	..	..	..	100%	13	8
ABERAMAN BATHS							
Shallow End	..	..	..	..	100%	9	6
Deep End	..	..	..	..	88.8%	9	3

## WATER SUPPLY

At the end of the summer certain difficulties arose in parts of the area served by the Nanthir and Nantmoel reservoirs. The complaints received were mainly in relation to the discolouration of the drinking water.

Enquiries of the Taf Fechan Water Board elicited the fact that these difficulties had arisen as a result of the construction of a North Sea Gas main across the gathering grounds with the concomitant disturbance of the soil. Movement of vehicles caused some soil disturbance but the active operations of stripping top soil and the digging of trenches aggravated this to an extreme degree and when the contamination of main feeder streams took place the ensuing run-off made the water almost untreatable due to the clay particles picked up. These conditions imposed undue strain on the treatment plant at the reservoir and were the basic cause for the deterioration in the quality of the water supply.

Consultations with the Taf Fechan Water Board revealed what procedural steps they were taking to counteract the situation and also led to the introduction of certain protective measures to ensure the safety of the water supply.

Contamination of the reservoir by particles of finely suspended clay will continue to create problems of treatment for some time yet to come.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

1969 proved yet another year of persistent endeavour to reduce the level of pollution of the atmosphere arising from the Phurnacite Plant at Abercwmboi.

Many meetings were held at various levels with the National Coal Board, and at these meetings, every conceivable measure to reduce pollution at the plant was critically examined.

Throughout the year, the plant itself was kept under very careful surveillance, but despite everything that has been done, I regret that my report is not wholly encouraging.

To illustrate some of the difficulties that were encountered, mention must be made of the period in the middle of the year when the performance of the plant was particularly bad, in terms of atmospheric pollution.

It was only after careful and prolonged enquiry and not inconsiderable pressure on the management that it was acknowledged that this state of affairs was largely due to the use of unsuitable coal from a new source.

The problem was eventually resolved in October, 1969 when a system of "coal-blending" was successfully adopted.

It is generally known that in 1968 pursuant to planning consent, the New Number 6 Battery became operational, and 1969 saw its first year of uninterrupted production which provided an opportunity for assessing the extent to which the modifications and improvements incorporated in the battery, had contributed to a reduction in pollution.

A condition of the planning consent was that the detailed design for the new building should incorporate all such practicable constructional features as would be likely to reduce the incidence of atmospheric pollution and should include in particular an independent quenching tower designed to limit grit emission during quenching in the production process.

As a result, the Battery incorporated the following new features:

- (1) Sealed Chamber method of charging the oven with improvement to the exhaust system.
- (2) Grit arrester on the quenching process.
- (3) Decarbonising system to prevent carbonising of the duct flues.

It is depressing to reflect that items (1) and (2) above, designed to limit the emission of dust and fumes from the charging and quenching processes respectively were suggested to the National Coal Board by the Aberdare Urban District Council as long ago as 1948, but were deemed by the Board then, and indeed until now, "to be impossible."

The main benefit to be expected from (3) above, *i.e.* the Decarbonising system was a more even and consistent flow of heat throughout "the charge" in the oven, leading, to, not only a better final product, but more important from the point of view of pollution—a clearer and quicker discharge, when the ovens were emptied.

It is difficult for the general public to assess the benefits derived from these improvements because of the excessive pollution from the older batteries, but close observation of the charging, discharging and quenching processes, suggest that this new battery, although not free from pollution, is very much better in this respect, than the old ones.

It is, therefore, pertinent to note how soon the older batteries are likely to be replaced by ones similar to the new No. 6 Battery.

On the basis that each battery has a working life of 15 years, and provided that the National Coal Board adhere to their stated programme of replacements, the following timetable should apply:

<i>Battery No.</i>		<i>Proposed date of complete renewal</i>
1.	(Reconstructed and commissioned on 29th September, 1961 (originally built in 1942).)	1976
2.	(Ceased operating on the 30th November, 1969 — replaced by No. 6 Battery.)	
3.		1971
4.		1972
5.		1973
7.	New (Under construction incorporating refinements)	

This then is what can be expected if the Balfour Pilot Plant does not prove a success.

If, on the other hand, the Balfour Plant comes up to expectations, it is hoped that future replacements will be by this process and so see the end of the Disticoke batteries, which in spite of the improvements such as those on No. 6 Battery, are not in my opinion capable of complete control from the point of view of pollution.

In view of what has been said above, it is perhaps appropriate to conclude by summarising the position relating to the experimental Balfour Plant.

Readers of previous reports will recall the visit to the National Carbonising Company Limited at Mansfield in September, 1967, when, after inspecting the Balfour Retort process under operational conditions it was felt, and indeed National Coal Board representatives who were present were optimistic, that this process, if introduced at Abercwmboi, would indeed provide the solution to the atmospheric pollution experienced there.

1969 saw the actual construction of a 125 ton per day Balfour pilot plant at the Phurnacite Plant and the first trial run took place in September of that year. Regrettably its initial trial run lasted only 36 hours when the plant developed faults which caused its hurried shut-down. These faults took the form of a mass consolidation of the waste gas tubes and ducting by pitch with entrained dust, and it became necessary to dismantle a large part of the plant in order to remove the obstruction.

It was evident from my talks with persons involved in the design and construction of the plant that large scale modifications would have to be made before further trials could begin. The end of the year saw "Balfour" awaiting modifications which were, in fact, well in hand at that time. It is more than unfortunate that the plant got off to a bad start and I only hope the troubles are smaller than I imagine.

### Comparative Statistical Information

Included once more in this Report are, the tables showing the results of the analyses made, during the year, of the deposits at the atmospheric pollution measuring stations set up in various points in the Aberdare and Mountain Ash Urban Districts. As in previous years, these results continued to be submitted to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research and National Coal Board, as well as being reported periodically, to the two Councils concerned.

As a rough and by no means scientific guide, an approximation of the standards of pollution to be expected in the varying atmospheric conditions to be found in the country, a clean town and a "black" area of dense population and heavy industrial development, is given below.

Reports to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research are now given in metric measurement and from next year onwards, in order to standardise, it will be necessary for me to report results in the metric form.

Finally the warning is reiterated as to the dangers arising from efforts to produce from these figures, scientific conclusions rather than, as is the intention, material of general interest value.

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Total Solids</b>
A. Clean .. ..	.. Less than 12.5 tons per square mile.
B. Fairly clean .. ..	.. 12.5 to 37.5 tons per square mile.
C. Dirty .. ..	.. 37.5 to 62.5 tons per square mile.
D. Very Dirty .. ..	.. In excess of 62.5 tons per square mile.

**COMPARATIVE STATISTICAL INFORMATION  
MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION**

Below is a table of the results of analyses of samples of deposited matter collected from sites in the Aberdare and Mountain Ash areas. The figures denote estimated solids in tons per square mile.

Collecting Point	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Aberdare & Dist. Co-op (Central) ..	20.70	—	16.74	—	15.68	9.92	15.04	13.53	10.80	9.52	—	—
Aman School, Cwmaman	14.10	11.20	13.02	8.64	12.04	13.02	10.24	14.19	18.63	7.48	17.64	11.55
Abercwmboi School ..	12.60	15.40	29.45	23.36	12.40	—	—	16.83	42.66	11.22	16.24	—
Duffryn Row, Cwmbach ..	30.60	17.56	22.63	10.88	30.16	13.64	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hibernian Club, Mountain Ash ..	28.71	12.18	20.16	—	26.40	14.96	20.48	10.80	—	18.00	22.41	24.96
Workmen's Hall Ynysybwl ..	—	10.73	17.08	—	16.17	11.48	9.57	8.40	11.96	11.52	14.31	—
Abercynon ..	—	—	—	—	8.44	7.28	—	23.40	3.78	9.72	9.83	12.80
Comphrehensive School ..	45.21	24.36	—	—	40.81	50.68	12.80	8.40	99.32	83.88	51.57	32.32

## CINEMAS

All existing cinemas within the area are provided with adequate and satisfactory toilet arrangements. However, periodic vandalism does create problems for the management and staff, who do endeavour to repair the damage with the minimum of delay.

During the year the Health Committee approved certificates of fitness with regard to First Aid, Fire Fighting, etc., and electrical installations. This service is administered by the Clerk of the Council.

## LICENSED PREMISES—HYGIENE

Periodic inspections are made by the Public Health Inspectors of all licensed premises within the ~~area~~<sup>area</sup>. Generally, the conditions are satisfactory, but with the increase of "pub" catering, more stringent control is now necessary.

Whilst the main purpose of inspection is to ensure that compliance with the relevant Food Hygiene Regulations is observed, repairs to living quarters are often secured.

It is hoped that a complete survey of all licensed premises within the area will be carried out early in 1970, a more comprehensive report being available by next year.

Again I wish to stress the close liaison that exists between the police and the Public Health Department, with regard to hygiene and inspection of licensed premises within the district.

## UNSOUND FOOD

Miscellaneous articles of food of the above description condemned as unfit for human consumption amounted to 6 tons, 8 cwts. and 28 lbs.

Condemned foodstuff was disposed of with proper care at the L.A.'s tip. The tip is under regular inspection by the Public Health Inspectors.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS

I must again express my gratitude to Dr. L. E. Coles, Public Analyst, and to Dr. R. W. S. Harvey of the Public Health Laboratory for the advice and assistance I have had from them in connection with the wide variety of chemical and bacteriological analyses and investigations which they have carried out on behalf of the Local Authority.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The Council is the Food and Drugs Authority for the District and during the year the number of samples taken and submitted to the Public Analyst, approximated to one sample per 129 members of the population.

The number of samples taken during the year for qualitative analysis was 2987 comprising 53 milks, 225 other foods, 2 of which were found to be unsatisfactory and 21 drugs.

Miscellaneous examinations carried out as a result of complaints by private purchasers—18.

## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS, 1963

Number of Sterilizing Plants Licensed.	..	..	..	..	..	I
Number of Pasteurising Plants licensed.	..	..	..	..	..	I
Number of dealers authorised to use the special designation " Pasteurised."	..					23
Number of dealers authorised to use the special designation " Sterilized."	..					22
Number of dealers authorised to use the special designation " Untreated."	..					3
Number of dealers authorised to use the special designation " W.H.T."	..					12
					4	

## REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK

44 samples of pasteurised milk, 2 of sterilised milk, 10 of Channel Island pasteurised milk and 1 of Homogenised pasteurised milk were taken for bacteriological examination during the year. All the samples were found to be satisfactory.

## EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR TUBERCLE BACILLI

A total of 4 samples of untreated milk were taken for Tubercle Bacilli and all were found to be satisfactory.

## EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR BRUCELLA ABORTUS

3 samples of untreated milk were taken and examined for Brucella Abortus and all were satisfactory.

## EXAMINATION OF MILK FOR ANTIBIOTICS

3 samples of untreated milk were taken and examined for Antibiotics and all were satisfactory.

## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of Dairies Registered previously.	..	..	11
Number of Dairies Registered during 1969.	..	..	0
			—
Number of Dairies closed during 1969	..	..	0
			—
<b>TOTAL</b>		11	
		—	

## ICE CREAM

All the shops and premises where ice cream is sold and prepared for sale were inspected by the Public Health Inspectors during the year. Vehicles used for the sale of ice cream were also inspected and kept under observation.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations prescribe the method by which ice cream is manufactured and the occupiers of all registered premises within the district are aware of the requirements of these regulations, and I am pleased to report that any suggestions made have readily been complied with.

During the year ~~two~~<sup>no</sup> new applications were received for the registration of premises for the purpose of the sale of ice cream.

Samples of ice cream were taken during the year for qualitative analysis and for Bacteriological examination.

## **FOOD AND DRUGS ACT—SECTION 16**

Number of premises registered for manufacture of ice cream .. ..	3
Number of premises registered for manufacture of ice cream during 1969 ..	
	_____
Number of premises or vehicles registered for the sale of ice cream prior to 1969 .. ..	200
Number registered during 1969 .. .. .. .. .. .. ..	2
	_____
	202

## **FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1960-63**

The Public Health Inspectors continue their work of education in food hygiene, together with the inspection and supervision of all premises involved in the handling, preparing and storage of food.

### **Summary of Food Premises in the area.**

Type of Shop	No.	No. of Premises Fitted to Comply with Regulation 16 (W.H. Basins)	No. of Premises to which Regulation 19 applies (Sinks)	No. of Premises fitted with W.H. Basins and Sinks
Grocers .. ..	43	42	40	40
General Dealers ..	60	59	59	59
Greengrocers .. ..	8	3	8	3
Cakes and Confections ..	33	33	33	33
Restaurants .. ..	9	9	9	9
Butchers .. ..	27	27	26	26
Fish and Chips ..	21	14	21	14
Wet Fish .. ..	2	2	2	2
Supermarkets .. ..	4	4	4	4
Chinese Food to Take Away .. ..	2	2	2	2
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>192</b>

**TYPE OF SHOP—**

Lock-up Shops .. . . . .	..	156
Parlour Shops .. . . . .	..	53
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>209</b>
New shops opened during the year .. . . . .	..	2
Shops closed during the year .. . . . .	..	1
Number of inspections of food premises carried out during 1969 .. . . . .	..	779

As in previous years, I have to report that the general standard both of the layout and maintenance of the shops within the area is on the whole satisfactory.

**LIQUID EGG (PASTEURISATION) REGULATIONS, 1963**

- (i) Number of Egg Pasteurisation Plants within District—NIL
- (ii) Number of Liquid Egg Submitted to Alpha-Amylase Test—NIL

**POULTRY INSPECTION**

Number of Poultry Processing Premises within the District—NIL.

**THE FOOD HYGIENE (MARKET STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES  
REGULATIONS, 1966**

During the year 78 inspections were carried out by the Public Health Inspectors on Mobile food vendors and delivery vehicles. On the whole the facilities provided were satisfactory, the few defects existing being remedied immediately by informal action.

**RODENT CONTROL  
PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**

During the year, work on the destruction of rats and mice was continued and two operators were employed full time by the Council.

The operators also carried out two maintenance treatments of the sewers in the area during the year.

Particulars of other treatments carried out during the year will be found below:

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of Properties in district .. ..	15,561	43
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification. .. .. ..	558	4
(b) Number infested by (1) Rats .. ..	447	4
	111	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and for mice for reasons other than notification. .. .. ..	328	21
(b) Number infested by (1) Rats .. ..	33	1
	3	5

**Sewer Treatments**

Two treatments of the sewers in the area were carried out during 1969 and consisted of baiting the manholes twice at weekly intervals using a bait made as follows—

85% Pin head Oatmeal	5% Mineral Oil
5% Sugar	5% Warfarin
0.5% Para-nitro-phenol	

Some brief particulars of the treatment are given below:—

**First treatment completed in April, 1969—**

No. of m'holes	No. Baited	Test Bait			Poison Bait			No. of m'holes not bait'd
		No. of gd & com. takes	No. of small takes	No. of no takes	No. of gd & com. takes	No. of small takes	No. of no takes	
559	545	69	—	476	5	15	525	14

**Second treatment completed in October, 1969**

No. of m'holes	No. Baited	Test Bait			Poison Bait			No. of m'holes not bait'd
		No. of gd & com. takes	No. of small takes	No. of no takes	No. of gd & com. takes	No. of small takes	No. of no takes	
559	531	70	3	458	5	20	506	28

## WORLD HEALTH EDUCATION COUNCIL LIMITED

The Aberdare Urban District Council continues to make an annual contribution to the World Health Education Council which was established for the purpose of promoting and encouraging education and research in the art and science of healthy living and for assisting local authorities in so far as their work comprises propaganda directed to the safeguarding of public health.

### Medical Examination of Council Employees

During the year 85 persons have been medically examined. The examinations were for the purpose of the Council's Superannuation Scheme, applications for Breakdown Pensions and the Council's Sick Scheme.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 to 1962

#### National Assistance Act, 1948 (Amendment) Act, 1962

(a) **Removal to suitable premises (Section 47)**  
No action was taken by the Council under this provision of the Act, during the year.

(b) **Burial of the Dead (Section 50)**  
No expenditure was incurred under this section during the year ended 31st December, 1969.

(c) **Homeless Families—Intermediate Accommodation**

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—SECTION 21 (1) (b)

The above Act places a duty upon the County Council to provide temporary accommodation for persons in urgent need thereof.

The County Council have approved proposals for the discharge of the above responsibility by securing the right to use certain premises in all areas of the County to provide accommodation for persons rendered homeless.

Accommodation has also been established by the County Council at Rhoose Camp for families who, in the main, have been rendered homeless by eviction from their homes.

In addition to the above the County Council have approved a scheme for affording financial assistance towards the provision of "Intermediate Accommodation" by Housing Authorities, and contributes to the cost of the scheme.

Since 1964 there is provided at the Old Isolation Hospital, Llanwonno Road, Mountain Ash four units for use as intermediate accommodation. The scheme is administered through a Joint Committee of the three Councils viz:- Aberdare, Mountain Ash, and Pontypridd whose functions are:-

- (i) To select tenants to occupy the accommodation from "Homeless Family" cases presented to them by the Medical Officers of Health for the three Councils.
- (ii) To review, in the light of Reports by the said Medical Officers of Health, the progress of any "Problem Families" so accommodated, towards rehabilitation.
- (iii) To decide when tenancies shall be terminated, subject, however, to a maximum period in all cases, of six months.
- (iv) To commend to the Council from whose District any tenant is admitted to the accommodation any such tenant considered worthy of normal rehousing in the District concerned, whether as a result of rehabilitation or otherwise.

The term "Homeless Family" includes not only "Problem Families" from Council owned and private accommodation in the three districts, but also those rendered homeless for any other cause and for whom no other normal housing accommodation is immediately available.

The main advantage of providing "Intermediate Accommodation" is that the whole family is kept intact, as opposed to Rhoose Camp, where only the mother and children are accommodated.

**MEALS ON WHEELS SERVICE  
REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1969**

Throughout 1969 the service has continued to provide three meals per week to all recipients. Where required in an emergency up to five meals per week has been supplied for short periods.

With the opening of St. Mary's Social Centre on the 16th June, preparation of meals was transferred from Aberdare Cables and Helliwell Limited to the Centre by the 21st July.

The following statistics have been compiled and cover the year ending 31st December, 1969.

CANTEEN		Ordered	Returned	Delivered
Cables ..	.. .. ..	4,023	8	4,015
Helliwells ..	.. .. ..	21,248	65	21,183
Centre ..	.. .. ..	22,889	—	22,889
<b>TOTAL</b>	.. .. ..	<b>48,160</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>48,078</b> <i>87</i>

Total number of meals delivered since inception of service—183,107

During the year 102 new customers were accepted.

Cancellations due to deaths were .. .. .. .. 60

Cancellations due to illness, diets, moving to Hostel or with relations—37.

Number requiring 3 meals per week .. .. .. 328

Number requiring 2 meals per week .. .. .. 44

Number requiring 1 meal per week .. .. .. 1

**SPECIAL**

Number requiring 5 meals per week .. .. .. 2

Number of customers on list .. .. .. 375

Figures issued by the Glamorgan County Council show that there are 5,400 persons aged 65 and over, resident in the Urban District. The number of persons receiving meals on wheels is 7% of this number.

**Old Peoples' Welfare**

As in previous years the Council has continued to provide tickets for a one weeks stay at "The Rest," Porthcawl. This year 42 tickets were distributed through the 14 Old Age Pensioners Branches in the area, on the understanding that all old people resident in the area were eligible for a ticket.

A sum of £300 was distributed to the 14 Branches in the area in connection with Old Peoples' Week. This was to enable branches to provide a function to which all old people could be invited.

## ST. MARY'S JOINT DAY CENTRE

The St. Mary's Joint Day Centre, mentioned in last year's Report as being under construction, was completed during the early months of the year and officially opened on Saturday, 14th June, 1969, by the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Wales, Mr. Ifor Davies, M.P. for Gower. In his address, Mr. Davies referred to the role of the centre in helping to meet the needs of an ever growing population of elderly people and in making a contribution to the rehabilitation and independence of the disabled.

The St. Mary's Joint Day Centre at Aberdare is a joint project between Aberdare Urban District Council and the Glamorgan County Council to provide social, recreational and cultural facilities for the elderly and handicapped, and has been planned on the basis that the many features to such a project, such as recreation, dining and possibly occupational therapy facilities, can be enjoyed in common by both groups.

It is designed to cover all aspects of welfare for the elderly and handicapped. Once inside the centre there are no steps or changes of level to negotiate, all corridors are fitted with hand rails, and entrance to all rooms and toilets can be made by a wheelchair. Three lounges are available, all furnished with fitted carpets, comfortable and suitable armchairs, which allow for the difficulties experienced by some elderly people in rising from them. Two of the lounges have television sets installed and all lounges have speakers which can broadcast two radio programmes, a record programme or even a concert which may be taking place in the main hall. The main lounge is also a reading room, where magazines, books and daily newspapers are available, whilst in the men's lounge or smoke room indoor games such as table skittles, draughts, chess, dominoes and card games are available.

The main hall which is a multi purpose room, can seat up to 300 people, although this capacity is restricted to allow extra space between the rows of seats. The hall can be divided to provide two separate rooms, which are suitable for lectures or displays. The floor is a spring dance floor and in addition to cinema shows and concerts, Olde Time dances have been held. The stage for the hall is equipped with spotlights, dimmer lights and a full draw curtain. Exit and entrances can be made from two sides by steps and at the rear by a ramp which is suitable for wheelchairs. A full programme of concerts and feature film shows has been held, of which the inaugural concert was provided by the Cwmbach Male Voice Choir.

The upper half of the hall is used by the Glamorgan County Council to provide recreation and handicrafts for the handicapped Deaf and Blind. Adjacent to the hall is a small kitchen, where teas and snacks are provided for those attending the classes.

The main kitchen in the centre can provide up to 500 meals per day, cooked on modern equipment and served either through a cafeteria system in the dining room or by means of self heating containers to the "meals on wheels service". Up to the 31st December, 1969, a total of 38,752 meals had been provided, of which 14,877 were served at the centre and 22,889 were provided for the meals on wheels service. The present average is roughly 1,000 meals per week over five days for the "meals on wheels" and 100 per day for six days to members at the centre in two sittings. On the Saturday before Christmas a traditional Christmas lunch was provided for over 300 members. It is estimated that in 1970 a total of 84,000 main meals will be produced. As well as a main meal, which is subsidised by the Council and costs 1/6d., normal cafe facilities are available and include morning coffee, afternoon tea and supper snacks all at reasonable prices.

Facilities for crafts at the centre include a carpentry workshop fully equipped with all hand tools, electric drills and attachment for power tools. A class is held each Tuesday and several members take advantage of this to do small household repairs and make small items of furniture. A sewing room is provided with special sewing machine table equipped with one hand and one electric sewing machine. Classes are held for sewing, dressmaking and quilting. The three instructors all give their services voluntarily and no charge is made other than for the purchase of materials.

It was difficult to forecast the extent to which the Centre would be used as it is the first of its kind and an innovation in Aberdare. To ensure that it would not be too crowded for comfort, the age limit for full members (who are entitled to use all the facilities) was set at 65 for men and women. To allow others to participate in the social side a category of Associate members was introduced and opened to all of 60 years of age or over and the husbands or wives of Full or Associate members. Both classes of members are restricted to residents of the Urban District of Aberdare.

The centre, open from 10.0 a.m. to 10.0 p.m. from Monday to Saturday, has been well patronised and is much appreciated by the members. Perhaps the hardest thing to create in a venture of this sort is the 'right' atmosphere, and I am happy to report that thanks to the quality, good will and enthusiasm of the staff of the Centre, this has been achieved.

## GENERAL HEALTH AND WELFARE SERVICES OF THE DISTRICT

- i. Services provided by the Glamorgan County Council**
- (a) **Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, Chiropody, Distribution of Welfare Foods, Issuing of Sick Room Requisites, School Medical and Health Visiting.**  
These services are administered by the Divisional Medical Officer.  
*Headquarters:* Divisional Health Office, New Clinic Buildings, Rock Grounds, Aberdare. Tel. No. Aberdare 2497/8.
- (b) **Mental Health Service**  
The duly authorised officers for this area are:—  
Mr. N. Cox, 169 Kenry Street, Tonypandy.  
Mr. B. H. KEVIS, 34 Treneol, Cwmaman, Aberdare.
- (c) **Ambulance Service**  
The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at:—  
Hawthorn, Rhydyfelin, Pontypridd, Glam., Tel. No. Pontypridd 2522.
- (d) **Welfare Service**  
Officers of the Welfare Service are available to offer advice and assistance to those in need of hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped.  
The local office for this area is at:—  
*Area Office:* Llewellyn Street, Trecynon, Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 3018.
- (e) **Children's Department**  
The office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at Greyfriars Road, Cardiff., Tel. No. Cardiff 28033.  
There is, however working in this district, a Children's Visitor:—  
Miss A. Colly-Priest, c/o Children's Department, Courthouse St., Pontypridd.  
Tel. No. Pontypridd 2275.
- (f) **Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages**  
This area comes under the Pontypridd District and the Superintendent's Office is at Courthouse Street, Pontypridd, Glam., Tel. No. Pontypridd 3122.  
The local Registrar is Mr. Dilwyn Jones, Registrar's Office, 21 Cardiff Street, Aberdare. Tel. No. Aberdare 2008.

**1. Probation Officers**

The address of the Principal Probation Officer is at St. Catherine's Chamber, Mill Street, Pontypridd, Glam., Tel. No. Pontypridd 2157...

For this area the Probation Officers are:—

Mr. CHARLES JENKINS and Miss E. PARKER, Probation Officers Office, 21 Cardiff Street, Aberdare. Tel. No. Aberdare 2901.

The Youth Employment Officer for this area, is Mr. W. V. McCARTHY, Youth Employment Bureau, Wind Street, Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 2795.

**2. Hospital Services provided by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board**

Hospital facilities for this area are administered by the Merthyr & Aberdare Hospital Management Committee. The office of this Committee is at St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam., Tel. No. Merthyr 3401.

The following is a list of the hospitals and clinics used by the residents of the area  
Aberdare General Hospital, Abernant, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 2411.

Fedw Hir Convalescent Hospital, Llwydcoed, Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel No. Aberdare 2612.

Mountain Ash General Hospital, Caegarw, Mountain Ash, Glam.  
Tel No. Mountain Ash 2212.

Mardy Isolation Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam. (*For Infectious Diseases*)  
Tel. No. Merthyr 3581.

Pontsarn Chest Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.  
Tel No. Merthyr 2278.

St. Tydfil's Hospital Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.  
Tel. No. Merthyr 3401.

Merthyr General Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.  
Tel. No. Merthyr 3651.

Chest Clinic at Aberdare General Hospital, Abernant, Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 2411.

(*This clinic is available on Monday and Thursday mornings*)

**3. Services provided by Government Departments**

(a) Ministry of Central Social Security (Wales)  
Central Office (Wales), Government Buildings,  
St. Agnes Road, Gabalfa, Cardiff.  
Tel. No. Cardiff 62131

(b) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel  
The office is situated at the  
East Entrance, Prudential Building,  
Cathays Park, Cardiff.  
Tel. No. Cardiff 26161.

(c) Ministry of Social Security  
The Local Office for supplementary benefits for this district is at  
Glanynys, Cwmbach Road, Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 2343.

The Local Office for Pensions and National Insurance is at  
4 Victoria Square, Aberdare.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 2541.

(d) Ministry of Labour and National Service  
Employment Exchange, Monk Street, Aberdare, Glam.  
Tel. No. Aberdare 2383.

4. General Practitioner Service  
This service is provided by the  
Glamorgan Executive Council,  
(National Health Council), Churchill House, Churchill Way, Cardiff.  
Tel. No. Cardiff 26216.

## HOUSING STATISTICS

Below are details of habitable dwelling-houses in the area at the 31st of December 1969.

Pre-War private houses in the area .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	9,825
Pre-War local authority houses in the area .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	576
Pre-War local authority miscellaneous houses in the area .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	40
Post-War local authority miscellaneous houses in the area .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	4
		<hr/>
Post-War private and Police houses in the area .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	10,445
Post-War local authority houses in the area .. .. .. ..	.. .. .. ..	1,148
		<hr/>
		2,542
		<hr/>
		14,135

During the Post-War period to the 31st December, 1969, 628 dwelling houses were demolished and 222 closed as unfit for human habitation—850 houses (91 during 1969.)

The number of houses on the Council's Estates are as follows:—

DISTRICT	Pre 1939 War dwellings	Post 1939	Totals
Trewnau	18	—	18
Trenant	132	—	132
Trefelin	140	—	140
Treneol	72	—	72
Penywaun	24	994	1018
Llwydcoed	106	94	200
Abernant	40	48	88
Cwmbach	44	535	579
Ty Fry	—	120	120
Miscellaneous	40	4	44
Cwmdu (Maesgwyn)	—	297	297
Aberaman	—	40	40
Hirwaun	—	342	342
Aberdare (Heol-y-Mynydd)	—	72	72
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>2,546</b>	<b>3,162</b>

### Types of Dwellings with Number of Bedrooms

TYPE	Bedrooms	No. of dwellings
B.I.S.F. Steel Dwellings .. .. .. ..	3	96
Traditional Houses .. .. .. ..	4	50
Traditional Houses .. .. .. ..	3	1,893
Traditional Houses .. .. .. ..	2	207
Flats .. .. .. ..	3	96
Flats .. .. .. ..	2	468
Flats .. .. .. ..	1	248
Bungalows .. .. .. ..	1	18
Bed-sitters .. .. .. ..	—	42
		<hr/>
Miscellaneous .. .. .. ..		3,118
		44
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>3,162</b>

### **Breakdown of Ages within Applicants with Families**

## HOUSING REPAIRS

I have to report similar to past years that housing repairs during the year have not been without their unsolved problems of getting landlords to undertake repairs. Continued efforts by the Public Health Inspectors to improve the conditions of the older properties have resulted in a substantial number of houses being attended to, although it has been necessary to resort to formal action in some cases.

The high cost of labour and materials continues to make the task of enforcing housing repairs, especially in the case of the lower rented properties, a most difficult one to deal with.

<b>1.</b>	<b>Inspection of Dwelling-houses during 1969</b>	
(a)	Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under the Housing Act and Public Health Act. . . . .	503
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose. . . . .	1046
(c)	Number of Dwelling-Houses found to be in a state of danger or injurious to health, as to be unfit for human habitation. . . . .	71
(d)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to, under the preceding sub-head), found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation. . . . .	203
<b>2.</b>	<b>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices. . . . .</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Action under Statutory Powers during the year</b>	
(1)	<b>PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 9, HOUSING ACT, 1957</b>	
(a)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. . . . .	6
(b)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice. . . . .	2
	(i) By Owners. . . . .	2
	(ii) By Local Authority in default of Owners. . . . .	0
(2)	<b>PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT</b>	
(a)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. . . . .	66
(b)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices . . . . .	43
	(i) By Owners. . . . .	41
	(ii) By Local Authority in default of the Owners . . . . .	2
<b>4.</b>	<b>Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957</b>	<b>1</b>

## RENT ACT, 1957

### **Part 1. Applications for Certificates of Disrepair**

(1)	Number of applications for certificates	..	..	..	—
(2)	Number of decisions not to issue certificates	..	..	..	—
(3)	Number of decisions to issue certificates	..	..	..	—
	(i) in respect of some but not all defects	..	..	..	—
	(ii) in respect of all defects	..	..	..	—
(4)	Number of Undertakings given by Landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	..	..	..	—
(5)	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under provision, to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule.	..	..	..	—
(6)	Number of Certificates issued	..	..	..	—

### **Part 2. Applications for cancellation of Certificates**

(7)	Applications by Landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificate of disrepair.	..	..	..	—
(8)	Objections by Tenants to cancellation of Certificates	..	..	..	—
(9)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of Tenant's objection	..	..	..	—
(10)	Certificates Cancelled by Local Authority	..	..	..	—

### **Improvement Grants, Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, and House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959**

I have to report that during 1969 applications for improvement grants have been received from 154 applicants. The number of applications approved during the year was 82 and the amount involved £29,141. Since January, 1955, £322,770.16.4 has been approved to 1,275 applicants.

### **Action on Houses unfit for Human Habitation (Housing Act, 1957)**

During 1968 <sup>9</sup>	Demolition Orders served	..	..	..	..	16
	Closing Orders served	..	..	..	..	39
	Closing Orders served substituted by demolition orders	..	..	..	..	—
	Undertakings accepted	..	..	..	..	—
	Schcmcs accepted	..	..	..	..	—

Occupants from 45 unfit properties have been re-housed by the Local Authority, during the year.

## CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960

There are three licenced major residential sites within the Urban Area, serving for the time being at least, what seems to be a very necessary housing need.

Two of these sites each have fifty residential parking spaces making a total of one hundred caravans, most of which are owned by the site owners. The population of the combined sites is about three hundred, but this figure varies from month to month due to the movement of families, some of whom seem to live very unsettled lives.

The third site is licensed for twenty caravans, but the number allowed on site has been restricted to six or eight pending the completed development of facilities and services. Efforts are now being made by the owners to achieve this.

Generally speaking these sites present little trouble to the department, but constant surveillance is necessary. The fire hazard in caravans has been a major concern and since the inception of these sites there have been several fires in caravans, fortunately without injury to the occupants. Now the hazard has been considerably reduced since each site is fully equipped with fixed fire fighting points, hydrants and extinguishers for each caravan.

The number of single caravans parked on isolated sites throughout the area which are the subject of a limited planning consent and site licence, have been reduced, (by "natural wastage"—people leaving of their own accord) from fourteen or fifteen to only one. There are only two or three caravans in the area which are exempt under the first Schedule of the Act.

Although improvements to the sites and to the caravans upon them are being constantly sought, the present situation in the district is reasonably satisfactory.

## NEW CREMATORIUM AT LLWYDCOED

At the present time people wishing to make use of crematorium facilities have to travel considerable distance to the existing crematoriums at Pontypridd and Cwmbran. Realisation of this fact prompted Merthyr and Aberdare authorities to work for the establishment of a new crematorium sited at the Head of the Valleys.

This joint project of the Aberdare U.D.C. and the Merthyr Borough Council was approved by the Welsh Office and during 1969 work commenced at Llwydcoed on a new crematorium which is designed to serve a population of 200,000 in North Glamorgan, part of North Monmouthshire and South Breconshire.

It is hoped that the work described as "long overdue" will be completed at the end of 1970.

## SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS DURING THE YEAR

Number of houses and premises inspected .. . . . .	503
Number of houses and premises re-visited .. . . . .	743
Number of Notices served—preliminary .. . . . .	119
Number of Notices served—statutory .. . . . .	72
Number of houses repaired .. . . . .	158
Closet cleansed or repaired .. . . . .	28
Flush tanks renewed .. . . . .	72
New closets erected to existing buildings .. . . . .	7
Yards paved or repaired .. . . . .	77
Defective house roofs repaired .. . . . .	160
Defective walls repaired .. . . . .	167
Defective chimneys repaired .. . . . .	125
Defective ceilings repaired .. . . . .	121
Defective floors repaired .. . . . .	106
Defective doors repaired or renewed .. . . . .	93
Defective windows repaired or renewed .. . . . .	151
Defective fireplaces repaired or renewed .. . . . .	44
Defective ovens renewed .. . . . .	21
New Eaves, Gutters and downpipes fixed .. . . . .	163
Accumulation of refuse removed .. . . . .	246
Other nuisances abated .. . . . .	333
Number of milk samples taken for examination .. . . . .	121
Number of water samples taken for bacteriological examination .. . . . .	245
Number of water samples taken for chemical examination .. . . . .	245
Number of verminous houses inspected .. . . . .	38
Number of samples taken for food and drugs examination .. . . . .	299
Number of infectious disease cases investigated .. . . . .	151

### Disinfection

Number of houses fumigated after infectious diseases .. . . . .	106
Number of articles disinfected .. . . . .	169
Number of articles destroyed .. . . . .	35

### Drain Testing

Number of drains tested .. . . . .	470
Number of drains relaid .. . . . .	53
Number of drains cleansed or repaired .. . . . .	168
Number of drains connected to sewer .. . . . .	84

### Bakehouses

Number on register .. . . . .	8
Number of visits of inspection .. . . . .	53
Number of defects remedied .. . . . .	19

### Lodging-Houses

Number on register .. . . . .	1
Number of visits of inspection .. . . . .	5

### Dairies and Milkshops

Number on register .. . . . .	11
Number of visits of Inspection .. . . . .	63
Number of defects remedied .. . . . .	12

### Appendix

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1969  
for the Urban District Council of Aberdare in the County of Glamorgan.  
Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961.**

**Part I of the Act**

**1.—INSPECTIONS** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4) ..	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	8	18	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	76	161	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .. ..	2	11	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> .. ..	<b>86</b>	<b>190</b>	—	—

**2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found—**

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

(1)	Number of cases in which defects were				cases in which prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ..	7	7	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperatuc (S.3.) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ..	—	—	—	—	—

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) ..	I	I	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)—					
(a) Insufficient ..	5	5	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	I	I	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. ..	14	14	—	—	—

J. LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LONDON)

*Medical Officer of Health*

